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This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.   (Original) A method for a standby router protocol (SRP) comprising:

assigning a VLAN participating in an SRP to a membership in a VLAN domain, the VLAN domain having a master VLAN;

establishing a default route for the membership of the VLAN domain as determined by a virtual router with which the master VLAN is associated; and

routing traffic for the VLAN in accordance with the domain master VLAN's default route.

2.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein establishing the default route is further determined by a current master of the virtual router.

3.   (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising re-establishing the default route for the membership of the VLAN domain as determined by a new master of the virtual router elected in accordance with the SRP.

4.   (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising sending an SRP message from the master VLAN to the virtual router on behalf of the membership of the VLAN domain.

5.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the SRP message is an Internet Protocol packet datagram unit (PDU).

6.   (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the PDU contains parameter data about a status of an end-host in a member VLAN.

7.   (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the PDU contains parameter data about a status of a member VLAN in the VLAN domain.

8.   (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the PDU contains parameter data about a status of the VLAN domain.

9.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the member VLAN is a layer-2 subnet.

10.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the domain master VLAN is a layer-2 subnet.

11.   (Original) A method for a standby router protocol (SRP) comprising:

assigning an end-host to a host-specific port of a first router supporting a virtual router in an SRP;

establishing an initial default route for the end-host determined by a current master router for the virtual router, the current master router elected in accordance with the SRP;

routing traffic for the end-host in accordance with the initial default route; and

routing traffic for the end-host in accordance with a subsequent default route, the subsequent default route determined by a new master router for the virtual router, the new master router elected in accordance with the SRP.

12.   (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the first router is the current master router.

13.   (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the first router is a backup router.